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REGION I FIT/EPA CORRESPONDENCE
C-583-1-9-35

TO: DON SMITH/EPA

DATE: JANUARY 5, 1989

FROM: MICHAEL CAPUTO/PROJECT MANAGER MC

COPIES: FILE

SUBJECT: **PRELIMINARY ASSESSMENT**
TRANSAMERICA DELAVAL, GEMS SENSOR
Plainville, Connecticut
TDD No. FI-8807-07
Reference No. $375CTQ6PA
CERCLIS No. CTD065511966

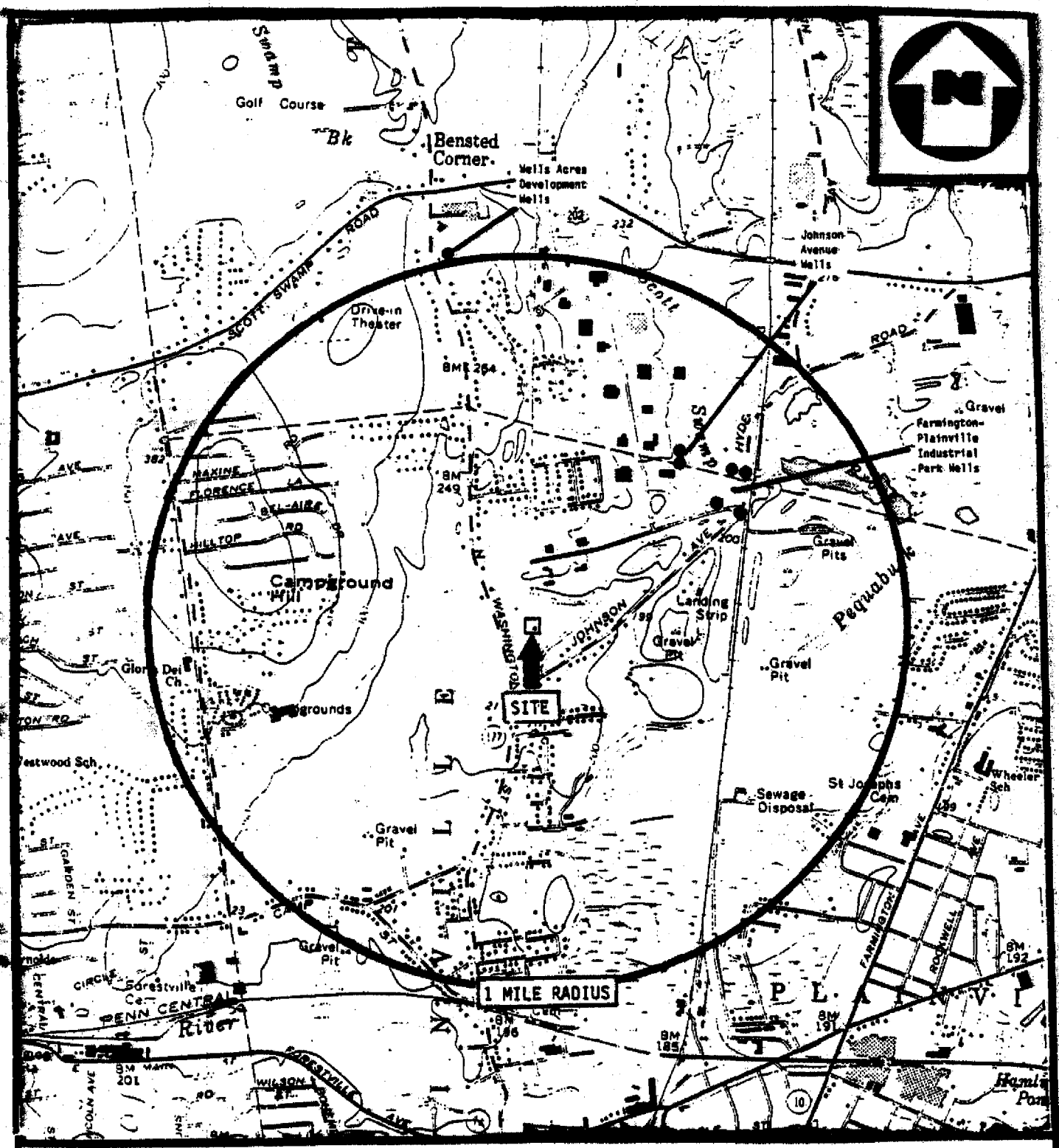
INTRODUCTION

The NUS Corporation Field Investigation Team (NUS/FIT) was requested by the Region I United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to provide a memorandum indicating the National Priorities List (NPL) eligibility of Transamerica Delaval, Gems Sensor, located in Plainville, Connecticut. This Preliminary Assessment memo is being prepared under Technical Directive Document (TDD) No. F1-8807-07 issued in August, 1988. Tasks included a state file search, document review and perimeter survey of the facility.

PROPERTY DESCRIPTION AND HISTORY

Transamerica Delaval, Gems Sensor, known since March 1988 as Imo Delaval, Gems Sensor, is located on Cowles road in the Farmington-Plainville Industrial Park, Plainville, Connecticut (Figures 1 and 2). The company has owned this property and operated at this location since July of 1980. The property was purchased from Stanley D. Fisher, who had owned the property since 1971 (Caputo, 1988). Prior to 1980, the facility was located 0.8 miles to the north on Spring Lane in Farmington, also in the Farmington-Plainville Industrial Park (Silverman, 1988). At the previous location Transamerica Delaval, Gems Sensor discharged an estimate 280 gallons/day of an acid salt brightening compound to a dry well (CT DEP, 1986). The former location is currently occupied by New England Aircraft and is being assessed by NUS/FIT under TDD # F1-8803-13.

The property lies in the Farmington River Valley and is bounded on the north by B. and L. Tool and Beekley company, and the east by Modern Woodcrafts Company. Cowles Road forms part of the eastern border and the southern and western borders(CT DEP, 1986). To the west of the property lies farmland. The surrounding area is both industrial and residential.



BASE MAP IS A PORTION OF THE FOLLOWING 7.5' U.S.G.S QUADRANGLE(S):
BRISTOL, CT 1966, PHOTOINSPECTED 1976, PHOTOREVISED 1972
NEW BRITAIN, CT 1966, PHOTOREVISED 1972

1 0 1 MILE

1000 0 1000 2000 3000 4000 5000 6000 7000 FEET

CONNECTICUT

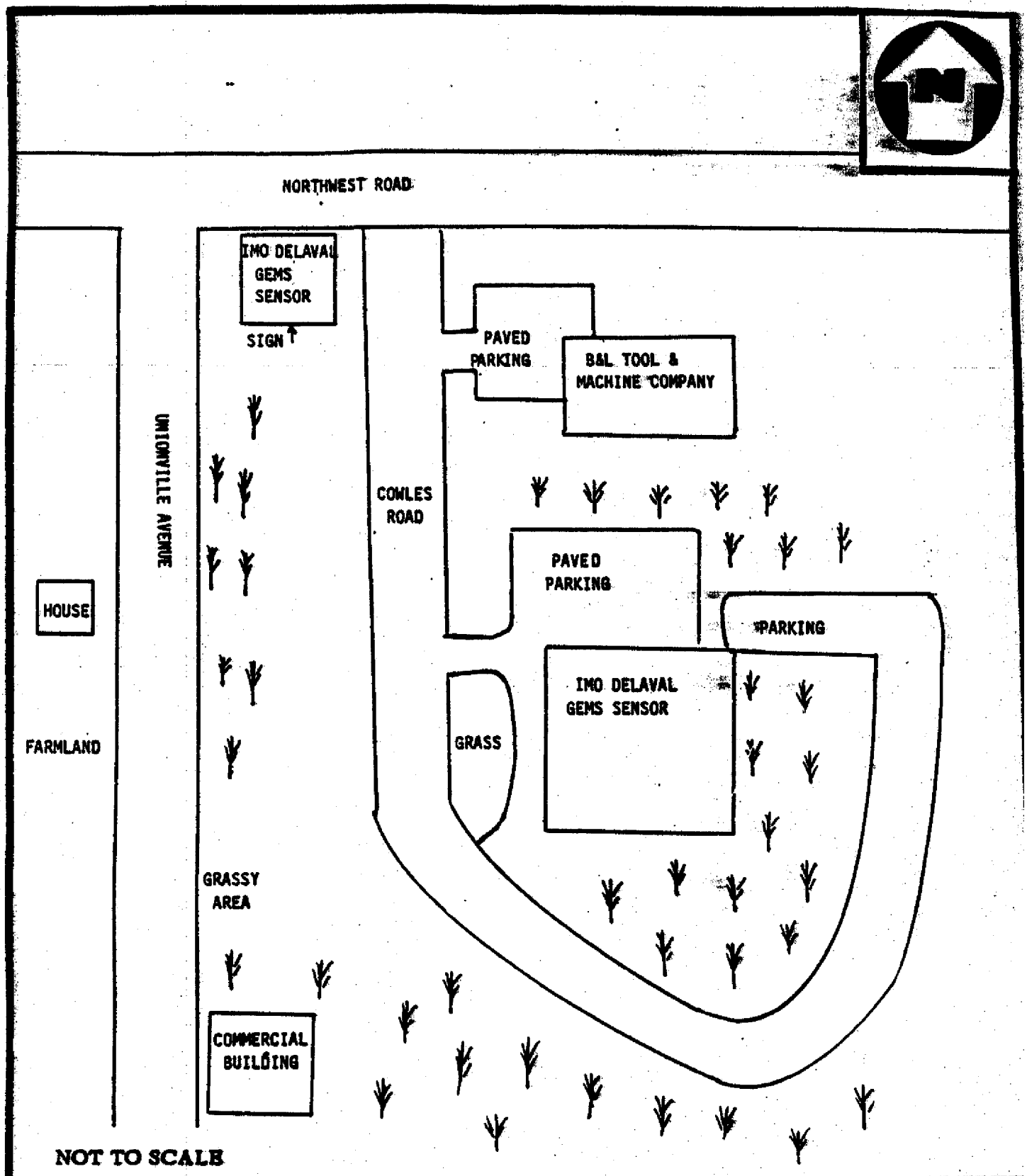
QUADRANGLE LOCATION

LOCATION MAP

TRANSAMERICA DELAVAL, GEMS SENSOR
PLAINVILLE, CT

NUS CORPORATION

FIGURE 1



SITE SKETCH

TRANSAMERICA DELAVAL, GEMS SENSOR
PLAINVILLE, CT

NUS CORPORATION

MEMO TO: D. SMITH/EPA

Transamerica Delaval, Gems Sensor has operated at this location for eight years, manufacturing flow level switches and tank gauging equipment. Manufacturing processes involve machining, sand blasting, etching, parts cleaning, epoxy injection, and dye and paint spraying (CT DEP, 1984). Resulting wastes include methylene chloride, 1,1,1-trichloroethane, hydrocarbon oil, ethylene glycol, monobutyl ether, Arklone (1,2,2-trifluoroethane and isopropanol) (Bennet, 1986), Rosin Flux, halogenated phenol, polysiloxane polymer, isopropanol, and epoxy dissolver (Imo, 1987). All wastes generated are transported for disposal by Clean Harbors of Kingston, Rhode Island (MA DEQE, 1987).

Transamerica Delaval, Gems Sensor notified RCRA as a generator in March, 1981 (US EPA, 1988). In January, 1984 the facility was inspected by Connecticut Department of Environmental Protection (CT DEP) personnel. As a result of this inspection, the company's status was changed to a small quantity generator. During the inspection it was noted that three drums of waste were stored at the facility. One drum labeled "Arklone" was stored inside, and two others labeled methylene chloride and epoxy solvent were stored outside in a cement based, bermed, and fenced storage area. Also during the inspection the company was found to be in violation for not having a contingency plan, inspection schedule and log, or personnel training records (CT DEP, 1984). For their 1987 Hazardous Waste Generator Report which was sent to the CT DEP, the facility listed contaminated rainwater as a waste. Apparently this water collects in the sump of the storage area. The water was reported to contain traces of methylene chloride, Arklone, flux, isopropanol, epoxy dissolver, oil flux, and "silder" (sic solder?)fluid (Imo, 1987). A description of the sump of the rainwater collection systems not included in any of the file information.

The Town of Plainville and environs are supplied by surface and groundwater sources from four water companies: Unionville Water Company of Unionville, Connecticut; Plainville Water Company Plainville, Connecticut; New Britian Water Company of New Britian, Connecticut; and the Metropolitan District Commission (MDC) of Hartford, Connecticut (Kuntz, 1988).

Plainville's surface water sources include the Farmington River, located 2.8 miles northeast of the facility, the Farmington Reservoir, located 3.1 miles northeast of the facility atop Farmington Mountain, and an MDC supply source from the Nepaug and Barkhamstead Reservoirs located approximately 10-20 miles northwest of the facility. It is unknown if the Farmington River lies on a potential surface water pathway. Distance and elevation presumably prevent the MDC supply and the Farmington Reservoir from being potential receptors of contamination from this facility (Kuntz, 1988).

There are several groundwater supply wells located within a one mile radius of the Transamerica Delaval, Gems Sensor facility. These include the two Johnson Avenue Wells, Located 0.6 miles northeast of the facility and owned by the Plainville Water Company, serving virtually all of Plainville's residents and a few of Farmington's residents; the four Farmington-Plainville Industrial Park Wells, located 0.6 miles northeast of the facility and owned and operated by Fischer Enterprises of Cheshire Connecticut, serving seventeen commercial businesses in the park; and the Wells Acres Development Well, located 1.0 miles north of the facility and owned by the Unionville Water Company and serving an unknown number of Farmington residents (CT DEP 1982). Between one and three miles of the facility, there are approximately 18 groundwater supply wells. It is unknown how may people these wells serve (Kuntz, 1988).

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The Plainville Water Company Wells on Johnson Avenue and the Farmington-Plainville Industrial Park Wells were found to be contaminated in June 1975. The State of Connecticut Department of Health Laboratory Reports indicated that chloroform, tetrachloroethylene, and trichloroethylene have been detected (CT DEP, 1986). Water from the Farmington-Plainville Industrial Park Wells was pumped and discharged and the wells were put back in service within six months. They are currently in use and monitored monthly with no levels of volatiles reportedly exceeding the present maximum contaminant levels (Kuntz, 1988a). Johnson Avenue Well #3 was pumped and discharged for 2 1/2 years, during which time a newly installed Well #6 was used. Both wells are currently in use and are regularly monitored with no levels of volatiles exceeding the present maximum contaminant levels. However, the Superintendent of the Plainville Water Company did explain that that the volatile levels will exceed the maximum contaminant levels when they are lowered in January 1989. Further remediation, possibly air stripping, is currently being engineered (Kuntz, 1988b.). No onsite sampling has been conducted at the Transamerica Delaval, Gems Sensor facility.

CONCLUSION

Transamerica Delaval, Gems Sensor has been in operation at the current location for eight years. Although current waste handling practices seem to be in compliance with RCRA-Generator requirements, insufficient information is available concerning the collection and storage of contaminated rainwater. No onsite sampling has been conducted at this facility; however, the CT DEP is investigating groundwater contamination associated with the Johnson Avenue and the Farmington-Plainville Industrial Park Wells. Due to this lack of information, past disposal practices, and considering the wastes of concern, NUS/FIT recommends that Transamerica Delaval, Gems Sensor be considered NPL eligible. Furthermore, NUS/FIT recommends that a Screening Site Inspection to be conducted at a medium priority

Approval: Joanne O. Morin

Joanne O. Morin
FIT Office Manager

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cc: D. Pernice/EPA (2 copies)
M. Blais/CT DEP (2 copies)
J. Sweitzer

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